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Attorney Docket No. 00613/LH

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT
AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant(s): Dai KAWASE et al
Serial No. : 09/643,800
Filed : August 22, 2000
For : ELECTRONIC CAMERA
Art Unit : 2612
Examiner :

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
WITH STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.97(e)
AND STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.97(e)**

Mail Stop DD
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

S I R :

Submitted herewith are the following:

- (1) Copy of an Office Action dated April 22, 2003 issued by the Japanese Patent Office in connection with a counterpart Japanese application;
- (2) English translation of said Office Action;
- (3) A copy of the cited publication together with a commercially available English language Abstract thereof; and
- (4) Form PTO/SB/08A.

An English translation of the Japanese Office Action dated April 22, 2003 is submitted herewith, thereby satisfying the requirements for a concise explanation of relevance for any non-English language publications cited therein (MPEP 609 III A(3)).

STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.97(e) (1)

Each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not

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I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service with sufficient postage under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

S. Dianne Franklin

In the event that this Paper is late filed, and the necessary petition for extension of time is not filed concurrently herewith, please consider this as a Petition for the requisite extension of time, and to the extent not tendered by check attached hereto, authorization to charge the extension fee, or any other fee required in connection with this Paper to Account No. 06-1378.

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more than three months prior to the filing of the present Information Disclosure Statement. Said Communication bears a mailing date of April 22, 2003. Therefore, the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement is timely under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97(e) and does not require a fee.

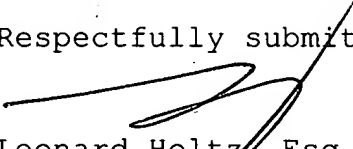
STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.704(d)

Each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in said communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application, and this communication was not received by any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than thirty days prior to the filing of the present Information Disclosure Statement.

Applicants have informed the undersigned that the documents listed at the end of the Japanese Office Action under the heading "Prior-Art Documents" are not supplied as they are not applied by the Japanese Examiner against the claims in the present application.

It is requested that an initialed copy of the attached Form PTO/SB/08A be returned to indicate that the publication listed therein has been considered and made of record.

Respectfully submitted,


Leonard Holtz, Esq.
Reg. No. 22,974

Dated: May 8, 2003

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PTO/SB/08A (08-00)

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Substitute for Form 1449A/PTO

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

Application Number

09/643,800

Filing Date

August 22, 2000

#5

First Named Inventor

Dai KAWASE et al

Group Art Unit

2612

Examiner Name

of

1

Attorney Docket Number

00613/LH

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Exam. Inits*	Cite No ¹	Document Number	Kind Code ²	Name of Patentee or Applicant	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Relevant Portion

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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Exam Inits*	Cite No ¹	Offc ³	Document Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵	Name of Patentee or Applicant	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Relevant Portion	T ⁶
		JP	06-177706		SONY CORP.	06-24-1994		*

*English language
Abstract only.

Examiner
Signature

Date
Considered

* EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ² See kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Place a check here if English translation is attached.

DATE MAILED: May 8, 2003